



CEPS LLC

FUELPROCESSOR AcidX

– Total Acid Number (TAN) reduction in fuels

Introduction

- As the global energy landscape evolves, the introduction of biofuels and variable refining practices has led to **increasing occurrences of fuels with high Total Acid Number (TAN)**.
- Elevated TAN levels are directly **linked to corrosion, component wear, operational inefficiencies and high OPEX costs** —posing significant risks to engine systems.
- When TAN exceeds ISO or OEM recommendations, operators face not only **higher maintenance costs** but also potential regulatory and **warranty compliance issues**.



Root causes of a high Total Acid Number (TAN)

- Organic acids: byproducts of refining, oxidation, or contamination, i.e. naphthenic acids.
- Sulfur compounds: sulfur oxidation forms strong acids, such as sulfuric or sulfonic acids.
- Oxidation products: acids formed during storage or exposure to high temperatures.
- Contaminants: acidic cleaning agents or chemical residues in the fuel.

Abstract representation of
fuel acidity reduction from ChatGPT.



Example from a Power Plant

Reason: damaged fuel pumps and injection system



Sample taken	Density	Viscosity	Water Content	Acid Number	Sulphur	Comply with ISO 8217 or DIN / OEM requirements	
	Limit 1.010 [kg/m ³ @ 15°C]	[mm ² /s @ 50°C]	Limit: 0,3 [%]	Limit: 2,5 [mg KOH/g]	[%]	YES	NO
after separator / before engine	945	405	0,07	3,1	0,47		X
after separator / before engine	948	518	0,06	3,5	0,51		X
after separator / before engine	1.102	517	0,04	3,7	0,50		X
after separator / before engine	946	363	0,07	3,4	0,50		X



**Reduction to < 2,5 mg KOH / g fuel
as required to comply with ISO 8217
or DIN /OEM requirements.**



Product introduction (1/2)

- The FUELPROCESSOR AcidX converts not complying acid fuels into a compliant fuel with a guaranteed TAN.
- Fuel acidity reduction is achieved by adding the neutralizing agent KOH and water.
- A low value down to 1,2 mg KOH/g fuel can be reached, OEM limit is 2,5 mg KOH/g fuel.
- Only the **real time demand of fuel** according to the engine load will be prepared.
- Limited space near the engine is needed only and will fit into almost all power houses or engine rooms.
- Short installation time of approximately 3 days plus 2 days commissioning per engine.
- Positive side effects:
 - a) better atomization of the fuel and therefore a more thorough combustion leading to fuel savings
 - b) less emissions (NO_x, CO, HC) and Particle Matters (PM)
 - c) lower Filter Smoke Number (FSN) at visible smoke



Product introduction (2/2)

- Costs for CAPEX investment + KOH + water demand have a **payback of approx. two years** by fuel savings and lower O&M.
- Robust and reliable reduction solution.
- Verified functionality, performance and durability.
- Low maintenance in time and costs.
- Assures full fallback to normal fuel supply line at any time with no impact in operation.

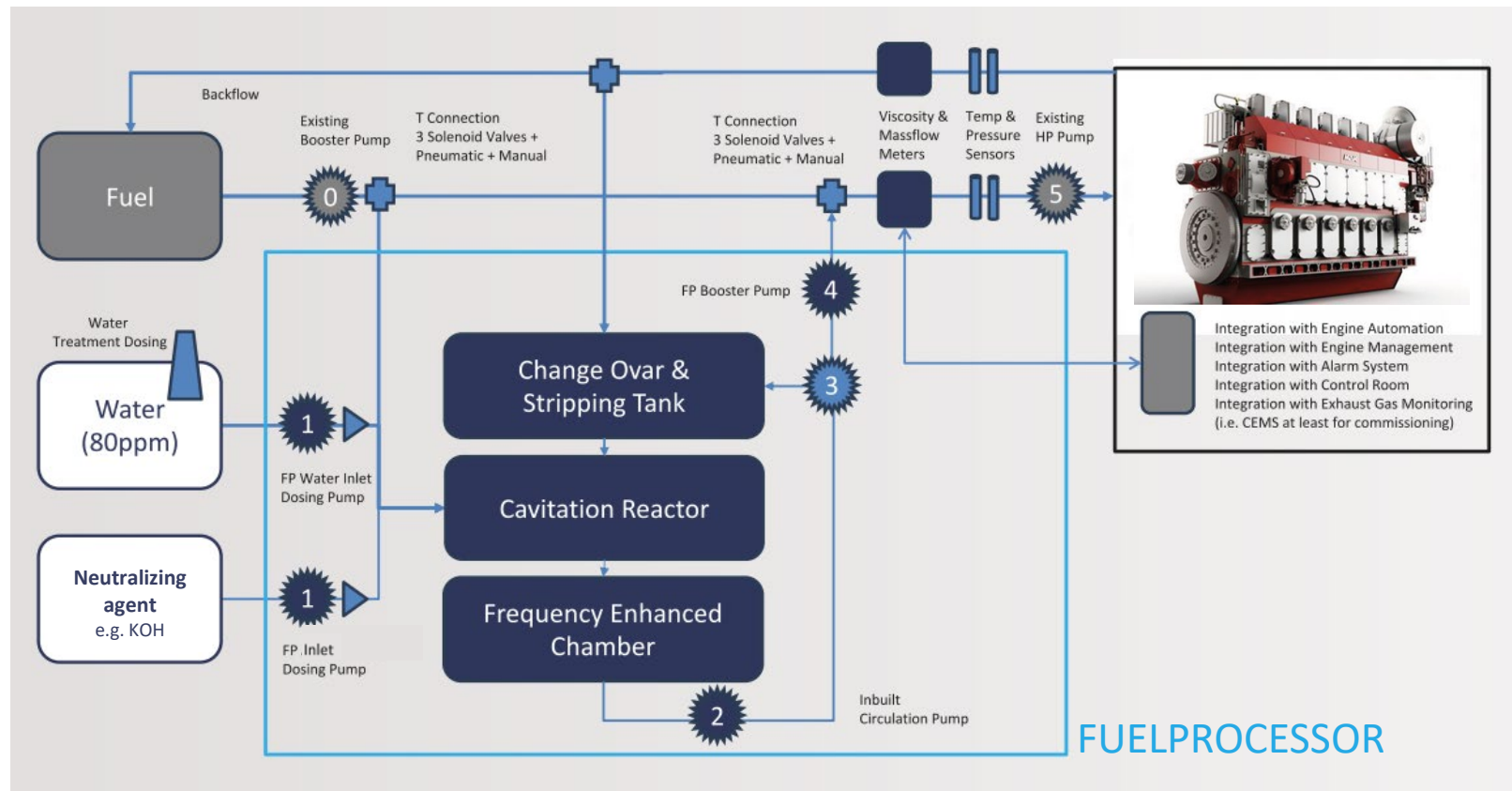


FP Unit and Control Cabinet – open up



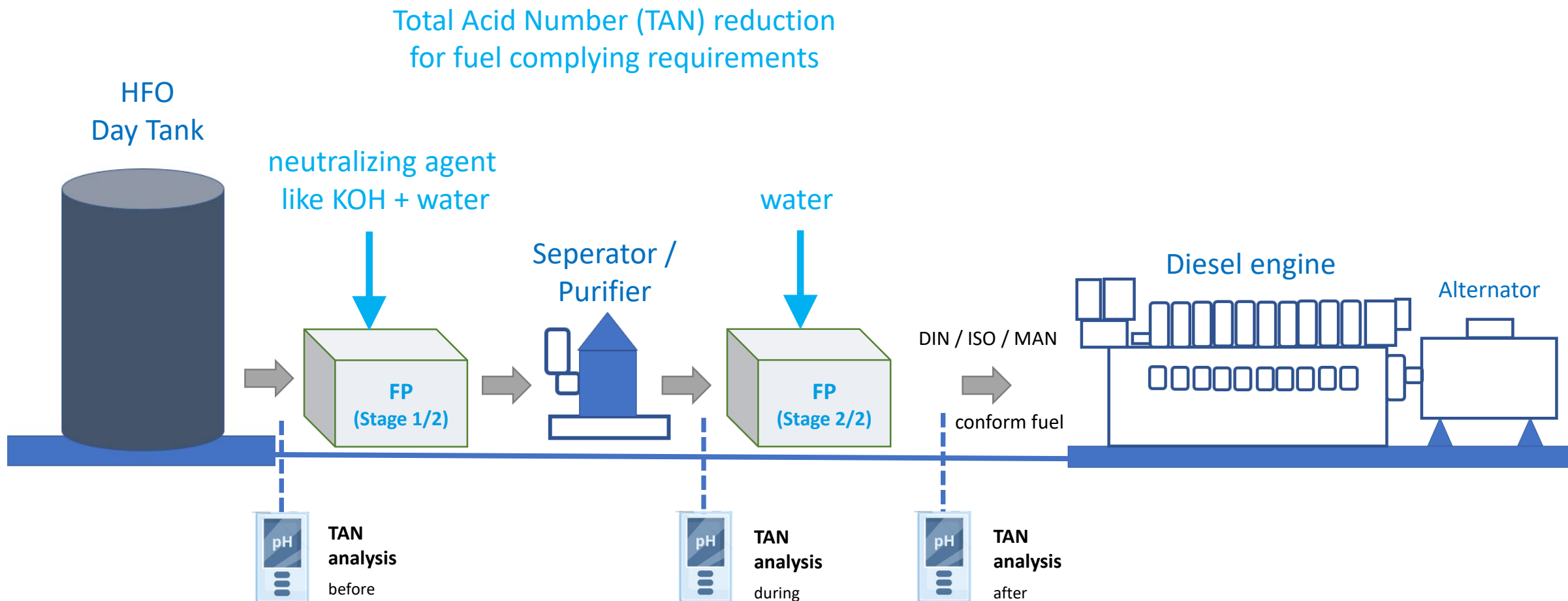
Working scheme

- Application for 2- and 4-stroke engines with usual HFO and Diesel fuels as well as Bio-Fuels.





Example of functional flow



References

- MaK 6L M20 (1.000 kW) Diesel engine at the test bed of the University of Rostock (FVTR).



- In cooperation with the Icelandic Marine College on a fishing vessel.



Summary

Secure your fuel supply and engine integrity—partner with us for sustainable, compliant fuel management.

Problem

- High TAN causes corrosion, reduces fuel quality and increases maintenance costs.

Solution

- 2 Stage Fuel processing neutralizes and traps acidic compounds.
- Novel Real-time processing in-line neutralizes acids more effectively and increases fuel reliability.

Benefits

- Lower TAN, less corrosion, improved fuel stability and reduced operational costs.

The FUELPROCESSOR AcidX solution **combines advanced fuel processing** technology with **chemical neutralization** for a **robust and cost-effective solution**. It provides **DIN/ISO compliant fuel** according to **OEM requirements**. Thus **OPEX can be reduced** and the **assets and its components will be protected** from excessive damages.



Alternative Energy Solutions
AES by DTS



FUELPROCESSOR AcidX
Total Acid Number (TAN) reduction in fuels

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